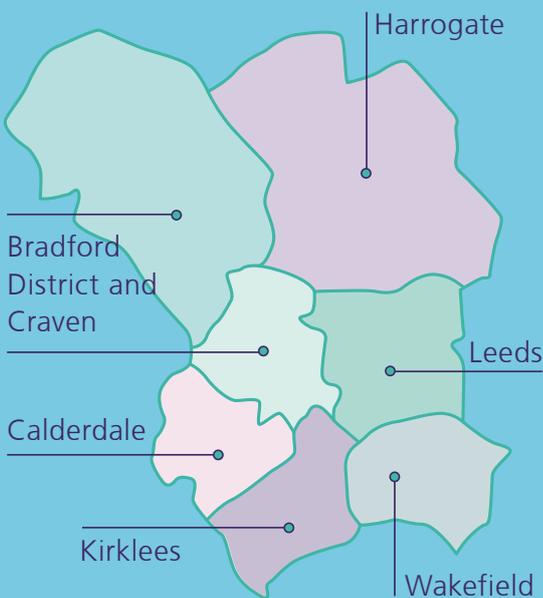




## Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.6 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.



# Helping care home residents make the most of their medicines

## Our ambition

People living in care homes are often prescribed several different types of drugs and medicines, putting them at particular risk from medication errors. This Medicines Optimisation in Care Homes (MOCH) scheme aims to reduce the risk of care home residents being harmed by medicines taken inappropriately or incorrectly. It is also identifying untreated conditions that require medication, and where residents would benefit from changes to their medication. In addition, the scheme is addressing the issue of medicines waste in care homes which is estimated to cost the NHS around £300 million each year, and it is helping to support care home staff with training and advice.

## What we are doing

**This national scheme involves carrying out in-depth reviews of the medication being taken by** individual care home residents to make sure that it is still appropriate and working well for them. In West Yorkshire and Harrogate, we are already carrying out these reviews in care homes for people with learning disabilities and have started reviews in care homes for older people too.

For some care home residents, these reviews may result in medication being stopped if it is no longer necessary. Or it could be that a change in medication would offer a better outcome for that individual. To improve outcomes even further, it's important that care home residents eat well, stay hydrated and follow the recommended schedule for taking their medication. All these factors are considered by the medication reviews.



## What next?

The scheme is a two-year project that is due to finish in our region in September 2020. The new GP contract announced on 31 January 2019 has a focus on care home patients with an Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) scheme. It is hoped that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians will have a role to play in the future as part of this scheme to further reduce the risk of medicine-related complications and unplanned hospital admissions.



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A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

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West Yorkshire and Harrogate  
Health and Care Partnership

